

REMARKS

In the above-identified Notice the Examiner noted that in the Amendment dated November 14, 2005, Claim 6 had no "Status Identifier". Accordingly, by this response Claim 6 has now been identified as "(Currently Amended)", and examination on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action of August 11, 2005, the Title of the application was objected to. By this response the title has been revised and is believed to be in good form.

Also, Claims 1 and 6 were objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for several terms. These objections have been responded to in the foregoing Amendment, and it is believed that proper antecedent basis is now provided for all terms used in the claims.

With regard to the claims, all of the original claims were rejected as being anticipated by the cited Japanese laid-open patent No. 7-283054, identified as the Kazuhito reference. In response to those rejections, Applicants have cancelled Claims 2, 7, 8, and 10, and have amended Claims 1, 3-6, and 9, while adding new Claim 11. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims as now presented are patentable over the Kazuhito reference for the reasons set forth herein.

Applicants note that the disclosure of the Kazuhito reference relied upon in the Office Action, was a machine translation which is believed to be defective for various reasons. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a translation of the Kazuhito reference which is believed to be accurate, and which differs from the machine translation relied upon in the Office Action for rejecting Applicants' claims.

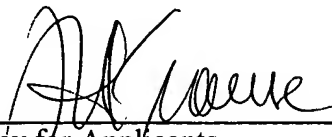
In particular, paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of the machine translation were relied upon as showing the claimed setting unit that sets data which depends on the transmittancy of the transparent member through which an image is to be read. However, those portions of the machine translation appear merely to show the reading of a bar code on a white plate to correct chromaticity. Instead, in accordance with applicants amended Claim 1, the individual data which is set by the setting means of Applicants invention relates to the transmittancy of the transparent member, rather than to any required chromaticity correction as disclosed in the Kazuhito reference.

In summary, in accordance with Applicants' sole independent Claim 1, the claimed invention in this application relates to an image reading apparatus having an original table comprising a coated transparent member through which an original image is read, as well as a correction unit for correcting a signal level of the image signal depending on the individual transmittancy of the coated transparent member. Also, a setting unit is required for setting the individual data which depends on the individual transmittancy of the coated transparent member together with a control unit which controls an operation of the correction unit in accordance with the individual data set by the setting unit. As is evident from the translation of the Kazuhito reference submitted herewith, that reference cannot be deemed to disclose Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is believed that the claims, as now presented, are allowable, and a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

John A. Krause

Reg. No. 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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